



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/675,274	09/29/2000	Christopher Richard Uhlik	015685.P052	1012
45222	7590	12/13/2006	EXAMINER	
ARRAYCOMM/BLAKELY 12400 WILSHIRE BLVD SEVENTH FLOOR LOS ANGELES, CA 90025-1030				TSEGAYE, SABA
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2616	

DATE MAILED: 12/13/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.	Applicant(s)
	09/675,274	UHLIK, CHRISTOPHER RICHARD
Examiner	Art Unit	
Saba Tsegaye	2616	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2006.

2a) This action is **FINAL**. 2b) This action is non-final.

3) Since this application is in condition for allowance, except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4) Claim(s) 1-61 is/are pending in the application.
4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6) Claim(s) 1-7, 10-16, 19-22, 25-27, 30-33, 36-40 and 43-61 is/are rejected.

7) Claim(s) 8, 9, 17, 18, 23, 24, 28, 29, 34, 35, 41 and 42 is/are objected to.

8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10) The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.

 Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

 Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
a) All b) Some * c) None of:
1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date .
4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____ .
5) Notice of Informal Patent Application
6) Other: ____ .

DETAILED ACTION

Response to Amendment

1. This Office Action is in response to the amendment filed 09/25/06. Claims 1-61 are pending. Claims 8, 9, 17, 18, 23, 24, 28, 29, 34, 35, 41 and 42 are objected. Claims 1-7, 10-16, 19-22, 25-27, 30-33, 36-40 and 43-61 are rejected.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

2. Claims 1-3, 10, 12, 19, 20, 25, 26, 30, 31, 36, 37, 43, 47-50, 53-57 and 59-61 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Persson et al. (US 6,647,000 B1) in view of Uddenfeldt et al. (US 5,088,108).

Regarding claims 1, 10, 30 and 36, Persson discloses a method that transmits a first broadcast message in a broadcast channel at a first specific time within a first assigned slot of a predetermined frame from a first broadcasting terminal (first base station) of a radio communications system, the first broadcast message including a broadcast information sequence; and transmitting a second broadcast message in the broadcast channel at a second specific time within a second assigned slot of the predetermined frame from a second broadcasting terminal (second base station) of the radio communications system, the second broadcast message including a broadcast information sequence (column 13, line 60-column 14, line 13). Further, Persson discloses that **the synchronization burst** is detected by mobile stations **to acquire frame synchronization and for base station identification purposes** (This means that the mobile station can direct its message to a specific base station (broadcasting terminal) based on base station identification) (column 11, lines 19-27). However, Persson does not expressly discloses

the received message from a user terminal being timed relative to the first broadcast message to distinguish the received message as being directed to the first broadcasting terminal.

Uddenfeldt teaches a method of transmitting information in time multiple to and from mobile stations on the same radio channel. Signals are transmitted with the same message information to a given mobile station with a given, mutual transmission time shift from different base stations (column 2, line 62-column 3, line 2). Further, Uddenfeldt teaches that the mobile radio system has a transmission time shifting unit for mutually time shifting the transmission times for base station transmitters of the same cell so that they transmit corresponding digitally modulated signals to the mobile station (column 3, lines 9-46; Abstract; and column 12, lines 59-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Person's communication system by transmitting a message being timed relative to the first broadcast message as taught by Uddenfeldt in order to provide a method and a cellular digital mobile radio system which are also suitable for transmitting information requiring great accessibility/reliability and high transmission speed (column 2, lines 35-40).

Regarding claims 2, 11, 31 and 37, Persson discloses the method further comprising transmitting broadcast messages in the broadcast channel at further specific times within further assigned slots of a predetermined frame from further broadcasting terminals of the radio communications system, the further broadcast messages including a broadcast information sequence (column 5, lines 66-column 6, lines 2; column 7, lines 5-10).

Regarding claims 3 and 12, Persson discloses the method wherein the predetermined frame is a repeating frame (column 8, lines 21-41).

Regarding claim 43, Persson discloses a broadcast channel in a radio communications system, the channel comprising:

a repeating frame shard by a plurality of broadcasting terminals, the frame having a plurality of slots, each broadcasting terminal being assigned to a slot (column 7, lines 5-10);

a predetermined timing assigned to each slot, so that each slot of the frame is synchronized at all base stations (column 7, lines 11-20);

a broadcast burst message for each broadcasting terminals, for transmission in the respective assigned slot, the burst message having a broadcast information sequence (column 7, lines 5-10; column 8, line 64-column 9, line 12). Further, Persson discloses that synchronization burst is detected by mobile stations to acquire frame synchronization and for base station identification purposes (by identifying a specific base station, the mobile station transmits a message to the identified base station (column 11, lines 8-27; column 16, lines 10-21)).

However, Persson does not disclose each slot of the uplink request channel having a timing relationship with the slots of the repeating frame to distinguish uplink requests sent to different ones of several nearby broadcasting terminals.

Uddenfeldt teaches a method of transmitting information digitally to and from mobile stations. Signals are transmitted with the same message information to a given mobile station with a given, mutual transmission time shift from different base stations (column 2, line 62-column 3, line 2). Further, Uddenfeldt teaches that the mobile radio system has a transmission

time shifting unit for mutually time shifting the transmission times for base station transmitters of the same cell so that they transmit corresponding digitally modulated signals to the mobile station (column 3, lines 9-46; Abstract; and column 12, lines 59-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Person's communication system by transmitting a message being timed relative to the first broadcast message as taught by Uddenfeldt in order to provide a method and a cellular digital mobile radio system which are also suitable for transmitting information requiring great accessibility/reliability and high transmission speed (column 2, lines 35-40).

Regarding claim 47, Persson discloses the channel further comprising a frequency hopping sequence (column 5, line 63-column 6, line 2).

Regarding claim 48, Persson discloses a method for accessing a wireless network, comprising:

receiving a plurality of timing sequences on a broadcast channel, each timing sequence being received from a different one of a plurality of broadcasting terminals (column 8, line 64-column 9, line 12);

determining network timing using the received timing sequences (column 11, lines 8-27);

selecting one from among the plurality of broadcasting terminals using the received timing sequences (column 5, lines 66-column 6, lines 2; column 11, lines 8-27). Further, Persson discloses that synchronization burst is detected by mobile stations to acquire frame synchronization and for base station identification purposes (by identifying a specific base

station, the mobile station transmits a message to the identified base station (column 11, lines 8-27; column 16, lines 10-21)).

However, Persson does not disclose the received message being timed relative to the first broadcast message to distinguish the received message as being directed to the first broadcasting terminal.

Uddenfeldt teaches a method of transmitting information digitally to and from mobile stations. Signals are transmitted with the same message information to a given mobile station with a given, mutual transmission time shift from different base stations (column 2, line 62-column 3, line 2). Further, Uddenfeldt teaches that the mobile radio system has a transmission time shifting unit for mutually time shifting the transmission times for base station transmitters of the same cell so that they transmit corresponding digitally modulated signals to the mobile station (column 3, lines 9-46; Abstract; and column 12, lines 59-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Person's communication system by transmitting a message being timed relative to the first broadcast message as taught by Uddenfeldt in order to provide a method and a cellular digital mobile radio system which are also suitable for transmitting information requiring great accessibility/reliability and high transmission speed (column 2, lines 35-40).

Regarding claim 49, Persson discloses the method wherein the timing sequences are received with at least one frequency and wherein the method further comprises using the received timing sequences to determine a base station selection message frequency based on the frequency of the received timing sequences (column 8, line 64-column 9, line 12).

Regarding claim 50, Persson discloses the method wherein the message is transmitted omnidirectionally (column 5, lines 54-62).

Regarding claims 53-55, Persson discloses the method further comprising receiving broadcasting terminal identifiers on the broadcast channel, the broadcasting terminal identifiers each being associated with a respective timing sequence and using the broadcasting terminal identifiers to distinguish broadcasts from different broadcasting terminals on the broadcast channel (column 11, lines 8-18; column 7, lines 5-10).

Regarding claims 19, 25 and 56, Persson discloses all the claim limitations as stated above, except for a machine-readable medium.

Those skilled in the art will appreciate that the physical storage of the sets of instructions physically changes the medium upon which it is stored so that the medium carries machine-readable information.

Therefore, the system of Persson could be modified to use a machine-readable storage medium. At the time the invention was made, it would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art to add a machine-readable storage medium into the system of Persson.

One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because programs can be changed and upgraded and new futures are added easily than hardware changes.

Regarding claims 20, 26 and 57, Persson discloses the instruction causing the machine to perform further operations comprising transmitting broadcast messages in the broadcast channel

at further specific times within further assigned slots of a predetermined frame from further base stations of the radio communications system, the further broadcast messages including a broadcast information sequence (column 5, lines 66-column 6, lines 2; column 7, lines 5-10).

Regarding claims 59-61, Persson discloses the instruction causing the machine to perform further comprising receiving base station identifiers on the broadcast channel, the base station identifiers each being associated with a respective timing sequence and using the base station identifiers to distinguish broadcasts from different base stations on the broadcast channel (column 11, lines 8-18; column 7, lines 5-10).

3. Claims 4, 5, 13, 14, 21, 32, 38, 45, 46, 51, 52, and 58 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Persson et al. in view of Uddenfeldt et al. as applied to claims 1, 10, 19, 30, 36, 43, 48 and 56 above, and further in view of Dunn et al. (US 6,591,103).

Persson in view of Uddenfeldt discloses all the claim limitations as stated above; except for the specific transmission times are determined based on a common timing reference (a satellite clock transmission) received by each base station.

Dunn teaches that using a shared command channel participating networks (from their local base stations) may broadcast their location, frequency availability and bandwidth price. User devices which wish to make connections and which know their location either through GPS or manual entry, or through other means, can determine which base stations are sufficiently close to make a carrier selection and a protocol selections based from the common channel information. Those skilled in the art will appreciate that radio communication systems have

unsynchronized base stations, i.e., base stations that do not share a common timing reference signal.

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings from Dunn of a common timing reference in the system of Persson in view of Uddenfeldt. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because using a common timing reference allows the base stations to synchronize.

4. Claims 6, 7, 15, 16, 22, 27, 33, 39, 40 and 44 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Persson et al. in view of Uddenfeldt et al. as applied to claims 1, 6, 10, 19, 25, 30, 36, and 43 above, and further in view of Almgren et al. (US 6,212,384).

Persson in view of Uddenfeldt discloses all the claim limitations as stated above, except for the broadcast information sequence includes a code (color code) to identify the base station.

Almgren teaches that a base station color code (BCC) identifies a particular base station to distinguish between respective BTSSs using the same BCCH frequencies (column 7, line 61- column 8, line 10).

It would have been obvious to one ordinary skill in that art at the time the invention was made to use the teachings from Almgren of adding BCC to the frame in the timeslot disclosed by Persson in view of Uddenfeldt. One of ordinary skill in the art would have been motivated to do this because adding BCC allows the user to accurately identify candidate base stations for which it is making received signal strength measurements.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1-61 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Saba Tsegaye whose telephone number is (571) 272-3091. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday (7:30-5:00), First Friday off.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Doris To can be reached on (571) 272-7629. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

ST
December 7, 2006



DORIS H. TO
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2600